of forest areas, shown as such as per revenue records and which actually have ceased to be forest cover?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE Op THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) The area under forests as per revenue records for the year 1982-83 was 67.16 million hectares. The extent of forest cover in the country during the period of 1981—83 as assessed by a study of the Forest Survey of India using satellite imagery was 64.20 million hectares. The difference in the two figures is due to the fact that while revenue records show legally recorded forest area, irrespective of forest cover, the satellite imagery shows only the area under forest cover irrespective of its legal status.

(d) Eco-development can be restored by protection of forest lands and reforestation of degraded forest areas.

For protection, Forest (Conservation) Act was enacted in 1980 to check diversion of forest land for non-forest purposes. The Act has been made more stringent by an Amendment of 1988. Also, the National Forest Policy, 1980 lays more emphasis on conservation of forests. There are specific provisions for protection of forests from grazing, fires and encroachment. Besides, alternative sources of energy, wood substitution and import of timber are encouraged to conserve forests. In addition, guidelines are issued to State/UT Governments from time to time for protection and conservation of forests and wildlife. Some of these relate to avoiding felling of natural forests, ban fellings in the hills above 1,000 metres and setting apart 4 per cent of the geographical area as Protection area.

For afforestation, wasteland development programme is being implemented for reforestation of degraded forests lands and restoration of ecological balance.

शिक्षा का रोजगारोन्मुखी बनाया जाना

*113. **सरदार जगजीत सिंह अरोड़ा :**
श्री र म जेठमलानी :

क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने शिक्षा को रोजगारोन्मुखी बनाने का निर्णय लिया था ;

(ख) यदि ह, तो गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान इस संबंध में हुई प्रगति का ब्योरा क्या है; और

(ग) इस संबध में सरकार की भावी योजनाओं का ब्यौरा क्या है ?

विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री साथ में मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय में शिक्षा विभाग में राज्य मंत्री का अतिरिक्त प्रभार (प्रो० एम० जी० के० मेनन) : (क) जी, ह ।

(ख) माध्यमिक शिक्षा का व्यावसायीकरण करने के लिए एक केन्द्रीय प्रायोजित योजना फरवरी, 1988 से आरम्भ की गई थी । यह परिकल्पना की जाती है कि व्यावसायिक शिक्षा से उत्तीर्ण होने वाले छात्रों को रोजगार/स्वरोजगार से सुसज्जित किया जाएगा । योजना के अन्तर्गत विभिन्न विषयों में पाठ्यक्रम आरंभ कर दिए गए हैं और इस प्रयोजनार्थ वर्ष 1987-88, 1988-89, 1989-90 के दौरान 25 राज्यों/संघ शासित प्रशासनों को 7,809 व्यावसायिक पाठ्यक्रमों के लिए 2,748 स्कूलों को शामिल करने हेतु 125.11 करोड़ रु. की राशि की केन्द्रीय सहायता दी गई थी । व्यावसायिक पाठ्यक्रमों में उत्तीर्ण होने वाले छात्रों के लिए रोजगार अवसर सुकर बनाने के लिए रोजगार क्षेत्र के साथ सम्पर्क स्थापित करने के प्रयास किए गए हैं ।

विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग ने भी स्नातक पाठ्यक्रमों के अन्तर्गत एक पुन: संरचना की योजना शुरू की है ताकि उन्हें स्थानीय आवश्यकताओं के अनुरूप बनाया जा सके और रोजगार अवसरों की वृद्धि हो।

तकनीकी संस्थानों में पढ़ाए जाने वाले पाठ्यक्रम पहले से ही रोजगारोन्मुख हैं।

(ग) सरकार का आठवीं योजना के दौरान माध्यमिक शिक्षा के व्यावसायीकरण को रोजगारोन्मुख बनाने पर अधिक बल देते हुए इस कार्यक्रम में सुधार करने और इसका विस्तार करने का प्रस्ताव है।

विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग इस बात को सुनिश्चित करने का प्रयास कर रहा है कि जैव प्रौद्योगिकी, संगणक विज्ञान, इलैक्ट्रोनिक्स आदि जैसे विशिष्ट क्षेत्रों में उच्च शिक्षा की सुविधायें जनशक्ति आवश्यकताओं के साथ गति बनाए रखती हैं।

Status of Women in the Society

@.U4. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA: SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a statement made by the Prime Minister and reported as news item in the *Hindustan Times* dated the 30th January, 1990, to the effect that Government are contemplating the plug loopholes in the existing laws and to sensitise the administration concerning (i) prohibiting the depiction of women in obscenity or lacking in dignity through any media, (ii) setting up of a social security cell at every police station for proper investigation of crime against women, (iii) eliminating sex stereotyping in vocational and professional courses, and (iv) protection of women and award of exemplary punishment to the wrong-doers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the salient features of the proposals and their time-schedule to sensitise the administration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WITH ADDITIONAL. CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) and (b) Government is aware of the issues discussed in the news-item in the *Hindustan Times.* dated 3Oth January, 1990 and the need for taking steps for the development and protection of women by effective implementation of laws and generating awareness in the administration Legislative provisions and administrative instructions exist to deal with these problems. These instructions are reiterated from time to time and are kept under constant review.

Manufacture of Equipment for Civil use in Ordnance Factories

•115. SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHl. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the defence ordnance factories have taken up the production of some items for civilian use; and

(b) if so, the details of equipment being manufactured for civilian use?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA); (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) (i) Sporting weapons and ammunition of non-prohibited bore.

@PreviousIy Starred Question 74, transferred from the 13th March, 189».